

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A core for a cleaning sponge roller, said the core being in a substantially cylindrical shape comprising:

a bore extending in an axial direction and a plurality of small holes communicating between said the bore and a circumferential outer surface of the core, the plurality of small holes are distributed both in a circumferential direction and in an axial direction of the core and aligned along straight lines in the axial direction, small holes in one of the straight lines and small holes in a straight line adjacent to the one of the straight lines are arranged on one and the same circumference of the core; and

grooves recessed in the circumferential outer surface of the core and extending in the axial direction of the core, the small holes opening into the grooves,

wherein wherein:

a diameter of said the bore is 10 mm or more, to 20 mm;

a diameter of said the small holes is 2.5 mm or more, to 5 mm; and

a total of cross-sectional areas of the openings of the plurality of the small holes is 1.2 to 5 times larger than a cross-sectional area of the bore.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A core for a cleaning sponge roller as in claim 2, wherein the number of the small holes opening into one groove is 2 to 5.

4. (Currently Amended) A core for a cleaning sponge roller as in claim 3, wherein the number of the small holes opening into one groove in the axial direction of said the core takes a repeat pattern of 2, 3, or 4, or a pattern of 2 and 3, 2 and 4, or 3 and 4.

5. (Currently Amended) A core for a cleaning sponge roller as in claim 3, wherein in the circumferential direction of ~~said~~the core, either four or six grooves are positioned at even intervals, and different numbers of the small holes open into the adjacent grooves, where the number of the small holes takes a repeat pattern in the circumferential direction of the core.

6. (Currently Amended) A core for a cleaning sponge roller as in claim 1, wherein at least one flange ~~is~~are attached either to one end or to both ends of ~~said~~the core.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)